

# Rogue River Courier

DAILY EDITION

VOL. VI, No. 58.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24, 1915.

WHOLE NUMBER 1602.

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

## PEACE SHIP CHARTERED BY FORD

**Builder of Automobiles Will  
Send Delegates to Confer-  
ence of Neutral Nations  
in the Steamer Oscar II.**

New York, Nov. 24.—Henry Ford announced today he had chartered the liner Oscar II as a peace ship to carry from New York December 4 the American delegates to a peace conference in Europe.

Ford admitted that plans for the conference are very indefinite. It will be held in some neutral country not yet determined.

While unofficial, the seastop, he believes, will attract support from peace advocates in other neutral nations.

"I have chartered the Oscar to call into life a neutral nations' conference," Ford said. "How to accomplish this I will announce later. We are going over to see if we can do any good. We hope to get the men out of the trenches by Christmas. I hope we will have the support of every mother in the world in this great effort to stop the war, crush militarism and navalism and wipe out forever the talk of military preparedness."

While the Oscar is a 10,000-ton vessel, capable of carrying 200 passengers, Ford admitted that possibly only a few delegates will go. Any reluctance of peace advocates, however, will not deter Ford in his mission.

Some authorities raised the question of whether such a conference, branded with Ford's leadership, would be acceptable to England, even if it were otherwise successful. This view arose from the fact that English newspapers have recently refused to accept Ford advertisements on the ground that he was inimical to the recent allied loan.

Ford recently urged the president to call a peace conference and he will go there again Friday to follow up this request. The president has indicated he would be willing to make a peace move only when there were indications that the time is ripe without offending any of the belligerents.

Whether Ford received an encouragement for his expedition in his visit to the president is not known.

## GERMAN GUARD SHIP SUNK BY RUSSIANS

London, Nov. 24.—Press dispatches today reported that 180 Germans lost their lives when Russian destroyers sank a German guard ship near Libau in a brief battle.

## RUSSIAN TROOPS ARE PROGRESSING TOWARD TEHERAN

Amsterdam, Nov. 24.—The Cologne Gazette admitted today that the Russians are progressing toward Teheran and that the American minister is in charge of the abandoned central powers' legations.

Petrograd, Nov. 24.—Defeat of a German attempt to assume the offensive in the Dvinsk district was claimed by the war office today, along with the capture of a German first line trench in the Dvinsk district. In the Stry section many Teutons were bayoneted, while on the Strypa the Russians broke the Austrian offensive with fire at one point.

## "Keep the With Gladness"

As a religious people who do not believe the world is ruled by chance, but by an intelligent and beneficent Providence and the Most High rules in the kingdom of the children of men, it is right that we should, from the chief magistrate down to the humblest citizen, be called to recognize and thank the beneficent Author of all our mercies.

God has rolled the seasons round. Seedtime and harvest have come, and we have received again the kindly fruits of the earth. And because of all these manifold blessings we can say, as probably no other people have ever said, that the lines are fallen unto us in pleasant places. We should appreciate our heritage, and for it we should "enter into God's gates with praise and into his courts with thanksgiving."

But above all—  
**"KEEP THE DAY WITH GLADNESS"**

## TO AGAIN DISCUSS PEACE PLAN WITH PRESIDENT WILSON

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

New York, Nov. 24.—New pressure will be brought on President Wilson Friday to call a conference of neutral nations to frame peace proposals. Madame Rosa Schwimmer, Hungarian peace advocate, who has previously seen the president, will accompany Henry Ford and Mrs. Philip Snowden, wife of a British member of parliament, to the White House to present resolutions adopted by the recent Women's Peace conference at The Hague and ask for the calling of the conference.

"The time is now ripe," said Madame Schwimmer today, "for neutral nations to end the war. We women peace leaders have information, though it is unofficial, that both sides are ready to stop the war."

The peace advocates, however, have no definite terms to suggest.

"Once we get the machinery for peace going, the terms will develop automatically," she concluded.

## PRISTINA HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY THE AUSTRIAN ARMY

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

Berlin, Nov. 24.—Mitrovitz, in western Serbia, between Novibazar and Pristina, has fallen into the Austrians' hands, while the Bulgars have taken Pristina.

These points mark the ends of the main Serbian northern position and are about 25 miles east of the Montenegrin line.

Vienna, Nov. 24.—Teuton troops are skirting western Serbia near the Montenegrin border, driving for Pristina, according to the war office today.

No remarkable gains were recorded. The war office was silent as to Serbian claims of victory.

Occupation of Priepolje was claimed, with favorable progress of the fighting elsewhere. The Germans were said to be only a half day's march from Pristina.

## GOVERNMENT PROBE OF ALLEGED BOMB PLOT

**Federal Investigation Brings Evidence Concerning the  
Operations of Naval Attache Boy-Ed, and Hamburg-  
American Line Officials, in Plan to Aid German Com-  
merce Raiders in the United States**

New York, Nov. 24.—Weaving the net of evidence about operations of Naval Attache Boy-Ed, of the German embassy, and Hamburg-American line officials, the government today put on the stand Captain Fritz Falkenberg, alleged aid in the plot to supply German commerce raiders.

Falkenberg testified that the Hamburg-American officials chartered the steamer Berwind. She left New York August 5, 1914, for an unknown destination, directed by the defendant Adolph Poppinghaus. Ostensibly the vessel cleared for Buenos Aires.

On the morning of the 28th the Berwind sighted the German raiders Cap Trafalgar, Santa Lucia, Alice Woerner and Lorenza off Trinidad.

"We were transferring our supplies to them," said Falkenberg, "when the British converted cruiser Carmena hove in sight. The German ships scattered. After a running fight of two hours the Cap Trafalgar sank." The Britisher did not attack the Berwind, for she flew the American flag. So Falkenberg headed toward Rio Janeiro and reached there unmolested.

There Poppinghaus re-embarked, the captain said. Upon returning to New York, Falkenberg received \$500 additional compensation from Karl Buehn, head of the Hamburg-American line, he said.

Frederick Haesler, president of the Inter-American steamer line, testified that the Hamburg-American officials chartered his vessel "Thor" after the outbreak of the war, ostensibly to carry coal to Santiago.

Haesler chartered two other ships on the understanding they were to be used in Cuban and South American trade. He became suspicious, he said, when the Thor put into Newport News instead of going to Brazil, as consigned. His inquiries in the circumstances led to the cancellation of one charter.

Later the Thor was destroyed and the Hamburg-American officials indemnified him for its loss. Robert Hasler, brother of the preceding witness, testified that the defendant, Hachmeister, was at Newport News when the Thor put in there. Cross examination revealed the fact that Hasler is British.

Afterward the defense admitted that the supplies for the chartered vessels had been purchased and disposed of by Hachmeister.

Washington, Nov. 24.—The government net tightened today on Austro-German officials involved in conspiracy charges. Activities of Naval Attache Boy-Ed, of the German embassy, as revealed in the trial of Hamburg-American line officials at New York for alleged customs violations for supplying German commerce raiders, were only the first sensational disclosures. Others are destined to follow, according to government authorities. While Boy-Ed's immediate recall will not be asked, officials hinted that his withdrawal will be the ultimate outcome of the case.

Meantime the government is awaiting the conclusion of other investigations involving Military Attache von Papen, Austrian Consul-General Nuber of New York and others.

Testimony indicating that Boy-Ed spent three-quarters of a million dollars through a "dummy" in his effort to supply the German sea raiders was said to be only a hint of future developments.

The government, it is known, is determined to halt for all time the activities of German agents in this

country, which have aimed at crippling allied munitions shipments and otherwise embarrassing the neutrality of the United States.

New York, Nov. 24.—The defense having refused to concede the participation of Naval Attache Boy-Ed of the German embassy in the alleged customs violations of the Hamburg-American line officials, the government promised today to corroborate the story told by Gustav Kullenkamp, German trader. Kullenkamp's story claimed that Boy-Ed was the director of a plan for supplying German sea raiders; that \$750,000 was deposited for him in this work; that a considerable portion of this was sent to San Francisco, which was made a base of widespread activities in this respect.

The defense stood ready to admit that the \$750,000 was spent and even to admit that \$2,000,000 was put out upon German government orders, but in so doing the attorneys said they could not admit any effort to defraud or deceive the United States customs authorities.

The government, however, intends to produce its own witnesses to prove its case, and hence rejected the defense offer.

All admissions concerning Boy-Ed were withdrawn. Therefore, today the government determined to establish its contention that he was the mainspring of the alleged fraud.

San Francisco, Nov. 24.—Gustav B. Kullenkamp, whose revelations in the Hamburg-American customs case at New York named Attache Boy-Ed, of the German embassy, as fountainhead of a plan to provision German commerce raiders, may be a witness here December 13 in cases charging five shipping men with supplying munitions to the raiders.

United States District Attorney Preston admitted today he had secured evidence from Kullenkamp two months ago whereupon the present New York cases are based. Kullenkamp at that time told Preston that Boy-Ed had telephoned him to notify him of receipt of the \$750,000 from Germany, which, it is alleged Boy-Ed disbursed. Over \$500,000 of this, according to Preston's information, came direct to the German consul here for the work of supplying the Pacific fleet of German raiders.

It is believed that Kullenkamp has information valuable to the government in the cases of Philip P. Sayre, John Hoyt, R. Swain, C. D. Bunker and Joseph Bly, accused of being American neutrality violators through their alleged work of sending munitions to the raiders. Preston declared that already the government has sufficient evidence to convict the group.

The penalty in event of conviction may be three years imprisonment and a fine of \$10,000 for all concerned.

## BABIES CLAIM ATTENTION OF WOMEN JURORS

Redwood City, Cal., Nov. 24.—Twelve business men, drawn on the San Mateo county grand jury, confessed themselves vanquished today by the women members of the jury. The picture of a happy home hearth and cooling babies that needed attention won.

The men wanted the sessions at night; they worked day times.

"No, sir," replied Mrs. Louise Kroeck, firmly, "my babies need me at night."

A chorus of women backed her argument, and the men capitulated, agreeing to meet any time the women desired.

## Reasons For Gratitude

Let us be thankful for abundant harvests, for busy days in mill and factory, for the incentives to industry and its more adequate rewards. Let us be thankful that educational standards are lifted and educational opportunity is broadened so that home and state strive together as never before for the making of an intelligent citizenship.

Let us be thankful that old fashioned virtue is given highest place in the people's thought, higher than pretentious wealth or social prestige or any public office if it be unworthily gained or held. Let us be thankful for the integrity which vice cannot by bribe corrupt, for the fine courage which vice cannot intimidate. Let us be thankful if by all the helps afforded us we have wrought worthily, and if we cannot with glad hearts look back upon our yesterdays let us be thankful that, by God's help, there may be brighter tomorrows.

## MEXICAN REBEL CHIEFTAIN NOT YET AT END OF ROPE

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

Nogales, Ariz., Nov. 24.—General Villa is not at the end of his tether by any means, according to Americans who reached this city today from Sonora. They declare the rebel chieftain is playing a deep game. He intends, they assert, to lure General Obregon and his Carranzistas into the open in front of Nogales and "whale the tar out of them," as one of them expressed it. "Watch out for something to drop around Nogales," was their advice.

One American who has lived many years on the border said Villa was forced to abandon his attack on Agua Prieta because he refused to believe up to the last minute that America had recognized Carranza and permitted Carranzistas reinforcements to reach him over American soil.

Villa has plenty of munitions, many cannon, hundreds of expert artillerymen and the best trained body of horse and foot fighting men in Mexico, this man declared. Villa's plea of famine is declared to be merely "a stall."

## SENATOR LANE DEPARTS

Portland, Nov. 24.—Senator Harry Lane will leave tonight for Washington for the opening of congress.

## SEN. PHELAN FAVORS MILITARY TAX ON MUNITION PROFIT

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

Washington, Nov. 24.—Calling at the White House today to inform President Wilson that California is strongly in favor of increased defenses, Senator Phelan indicated that he will advocate a tax on munitions profits as one means of raising revenues to meet the administration's increased preparedness program.

"As the Panama canal can not be depended upon," Phelan said, "we feel that the Pacific coast should have an independent fleet."

Phelan is urging that some of the new battleships be built at the Mare Island yard.

## SERB CITIES TAKEN BY TEUTONS

**Capture of Mitrovitz and  
Pristina Brings Armies of  
Central Powers Up With  
the Serbian Northern Army**

London, Nov. 24.—With Austrian capture of Mitrovitz and Bulgar capture of Pristina, officially reported today, the central powers' armies are now face to face with the Serbs' northern army. The final fight is evidently at hand.

In the 30-mile gap between the towns at the ends of the historically famous Plain of the Blackbird are entrenched the indomitably courageous Serbians. Buffeted across their land since Nish fell, the Serbs up to the present have offered wild resistance to the invaders. They have lost many in killed and captured, but their spirit is still ferocious.

Whether the invaders are now in sufficient force to attack at once is unknown, but, at any rate, it is believed that a decisive battle on the bloody Plain of the Blackbird can be delayed only a few hours. Here history may be made again.

If the struggle continues long, the Serbs, it is believed, must inevitably be captured. The central allies by detouring can surround them, provided they have sufficient time, and then the Serbs may be crushed as were the French at Sedan in 1870.

At the best, the Serbians can hope for no more than to be forced over their border into Montenegro. Capture of their army on the Plain of the Blackbird, or expulsion of the army from Serbia, will mean that the Teuton-Bulgar conquest of old Serbia and the San Jak of Novibazar is complete.

The Austro-Germans are now 150 miles south of the northern frontier and less than 120 miles north of the southern.

## STATE CLAIM AGENT OF WASHINGTON IN GRAFT PROBE

Olympia, Wash., Nov. 24.—John F. Gillies, suspended claim agent of the state industrial insurance commission, is the central figure today in the \$15,000 graft investigation. Gillies was removed from office Monday after it had been disclosed that huge sums had been looted from the department by means of false accident claims and forged warrants.

Gillies today is declaring that he is prepared to make disclosures concerning certain state officials which will prove one of the biggest sensations in the state's history. He adds to this story that last Friday night, prior to the public disclosure of the frauds, an attempt was made to kidnap him. He declares he and M. B. Ernst, member of the commission, formerly were partners in British Columbia mines. He also says he has from time to time loaned money to the commissioners.

Concerning the kidnapping, Gillies says that as he was walking home Friday night an automobile overtook him. A man asked him if he wanted to find a certain one-armed man supposed to have taken part in a graft scheme.

Gillies said he did, and got into the automobile. He was driven to a house in the country, where he was confronted by a third man, who pulled a gun and told Gillies that if he did not have the investigation stopped he would be killed.